

## **New National Children's Study Seeks Environmental Causes of Autism, Asthma, ADHD**

January 13, 2009

The National Children's Study is a new, comprehensive study being conducted to determine the causes of major health problems, one of which is autism. The study will investigate environmental contributors to many childhood illnesses. With autism rates on the rise, scientists are starting to believe that genetic causes is simple not enough of an explanation. This study will follow thousands of children for the first 2 decades of their life, examining how their environment is impacting their health. It is the first long-term, large scale study that has been conducted, dedicating their efforts on investigating the environment and children.

While parents are not able to "sign up" for the study (they are seeking a scientifically selected sample that will ensure diversity), the effects of the study could be profound and enlightening to everyone.

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